

PARENT & FAMILY

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HILL

It's hard to believe spring break is already behind us and we're officially heading into the final stretch of the academic year! Students are now looking ahead to summer plans and preparing for fall course registration — including those exploring opportunities to study abroad at our Budapest campus. And if your student *isn't* registering for fall, that means they're graduating this spring — such an exciting milestone! Be sure to visit the [Commencement webpage](#), your central hub for all graduation details.

To stay connected to the energy and accomplishments happening across the Hill, we invite you to check out the [McDaniel News](#) page. It's a wonderful window into the many ways our students and faculty are making an impact — from earning recognition at national theatre festivals and engaging with elected officials to presenting their academic work at conferences around the country.

As your student moves through these final weeks of the semester, warmer weather and busy schedules can sometimes make it challenging to stay focused. Please encourage them to revisit their goals, maintain a routine, and build in time for wellness so they can finish the year strong. Tools like calendars and time management apps can go a long way in helping them stay organized while also making room for much needed breaks.

Here's to a strong finish!



Christine Moran
AVP of Student Success



Heidi Reigel '97
AVP of Constituent Engagement

ACADEMIC DATES

Tuesday, March 24	Summer 2026 registration begins
Wednesday, April 1	Last day to withdraw from UG class with "W" grade or select P/Dx/F, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 6	UG Fall 2026 registration begins
Monday, May 4	Academic Symposium
Friday, May 8	Spring UG classes end
Monday, May 11 - Friday, May 15	UG spring exams
Saturday, May 23	UG Commencement

View the [complete Academic Calendar](#).



Experience Student and Faculty Excellence at McDaniel's Academic Symposium!

Parents and families, you're invited to McDaniel College's annual Academic Symposium on Monday, May 4, from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. This special event showcases original research, scholarship, and creative achievement of McDaniel students, faculty, and staff. Ask your student if they are presenting! This year's theme "Pass On What You Have Learned" celebrates research, mentorship, and discovery.

Whether you'd like to attend the whole day or drop into a session that interests you, this is a fantastic opportunity to see firsthand the incredible work on the Hill. Sessions will occur throughout campus and are free and open to the public.

Come celebrate the academic excellence of our McDaniel community — we'd love to see you there!

For complete details, visit mcdaniel.edu/academic-symposium.

COMMENCEMENT



Undergraduate students processing into Gill Center for Commencement.

If your student is graduating this spring, be sure to bookmark McDaniel's [Commencement webpage](#) — the central hub for everything you need to know about the big day, including schedules, ticket, parking, and accessibility information. Make sure to take note of the April 8 cap and gown order deadline and check out the spirit shop. This page is updated regularly to keep families fully informed and ready to celebrate.

All of your Green Terror's biggest fans can cheer them on as they walk across the stage! The undergraduate Commencement ceremony will be livestreamed on the McDaniel website, with the viewing link posted on the Commencement webpage the day of the event.

For guests without ceremony tickets, Decker Auditorium in Lewis Hall of Science will serve as an oncampus viewing location. This venue does not require tickets, and guests may come and go freely. Printed programs will also be available from ushers at this site.

Please note: Decker Auditorium seats approximately 170 guests, so seating will be offered on a firstcome, firstserved basis.

CENTER FOR EXPERIENCE AND OPPORTUNITY (CEO)

Getting Students Career Ready

The CEO's Senior Success Series launched in February with strong engagement, featuring

workshops on Jump Starting Your Job Search and Leveling Up Your LinkedIn. Designed especially for seniors — but open to all students — the series offers practical, confidence-building opportunities to prepare for whatever comes next, professionally and personally. Whether students are gearing up for summer jobs, internships, or life after graduation, these CEO hosted sessions are a great way to get ahead.

Encourage your student to explore the upcoming offerings below:

Managing Finances Workshop	March 31 6-7 p.m.
Professional Pathway Showcase: Humanities, Arts, Education, and Social Sciences	April 1 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Level Up Your Interview Skills Workshop	April 6 3:30-4:30 p.m.
What to Expect on Your First Day of Work Workshop	April 7 6-7 p.m.
Mock Interviews	April 9 1-3 p.m. (In Person) and 6-8 p.m. (Virtual)

Students can sign up for all career workshops and events on Handshake.

Make the Most of Summer Break with a Professional Internship

Summer internships are one of the most valuable ways students can gain real world experience and explore their career interests. These opportunities help students build practical skills, strengthen their résumés, and expand their professional networks — all while growing confidence in a workplace setting. Many internships are paid and can even lead to future job offers, making them an excellent step toward life after graduation. If your student is interested in pursuing a summer internship, they can connect with their advisor or schedule an appointment with the CEO through Navigate to get started.

Support for Internships

We know that internships can be life-changing, but they sometimes come with additional costs — such as transportation, housing, meals, or professional attire — that can make participation difficult for some students. To help remove those barriers, McDaniel offers **Experiential Learning Grants** that provide financial support so students can take advantage of these important opportunities.

Students can apply for grants throughout the year, with deadlines on the first of each month from September through May. Details and the application link are available on the CEO page in the MyMcDaniel portal. Awards are based on several factors, including financial need, academic performance, field of study, and the extent to which the experience connects to the student's goals. Applicants must be current undergraduate students in good academic and financial standing.

information.

- Urgency: Pressuring the target to act immediately, often creating panic.
- Untraceable Payments: Requesting payments via gift cards, cryptocurrency, wire transfers, or mailed cash.

Encourage your student to stay vigilant! If they suspect a scam or have responded to one, they should contact Campus Safety at 410-857-2202. Campus Safety is available 24/7 to provide support and protect them from further harm.

FINANCIAL AID

As families begin planning for the upcoming academic year, the Financial Aid Office encourages all students who have not yet submitted the **2025-26 FAFSA** to complete it as soon as possible at studentaid.gov. Even though the March 1 Maryland state aid priority deadline has passed, filing the FAFSA is still essential for students to be considered for federal and institutional aid.

It's also a good time to review **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** requirements, which students must meet to remain eligible for financial aid. This includes maintaining at least a **2.0 cumulative GPA** and successfully completing the majority of attempted coursework. Students considering schedule changes — such as dropping or withdrawing from a course — are encouraged to speak with their **student success coach** or the **Financial Aid Office** beforehand, as changes can affect aid eligibility.

For questions or personalized guidance, the Financial Aid team is available to support students based on their last name:

- **A-F:** Emma Sorrell — emma.sorrell@mcdaniel.edu | 410-386-4807
- **G-M:** Lerlene McAllister — lerlene.mcallister@mcdaniel.edu | 410-871-3311
- **N-Z:** Kenzie Elliott — melliott@mcdaniel.edu | 410-857-2255

The office remains committed to partnering with families to help students successfully navigate their financial aid and stay on track academically.

BURSAR'S OFFICE

Spring 2026 Statements are Available Online

E-Billing notifications have been sent to the student's McDaniel email address. Parents and any other bill payers with access to billing information can view the statements and make payments.

Fall and Summer Registration

Registration opens on April 1, and accounts must be in good financial standing.

Monday, June 1	Summer tuition due.
Monday, June 15	Fall payment plan enrollment opens. The first installment is due at the time of enrollment. Installment amounts are based on your enrollment date. Installments are due July 1, Aug.1, Sept. 1, Oct. 1, and Nov. 1. There is a \$75 enrollment fee.
Wednesday, July 15	Fall tuition due.
Sunday, Nov. 15	Spring payment plan enrollment opens. Installments are determined by the enrollment date. The five-installment plan is due on the first of each month from December through April.
Monday, Jan. 4	Spring tuition is due

NEWS FROM THE WELLNESS CENTER

With new independence, peer pressures, and the stress of academic deadlines, college students often find themselves navigating through choices related to the use of substances like alcohol and cannabis. Parents and families are often left wondering if they have been successful in filling their student's "toolbox" with the skills and information to make smart decisions.

McDaniel is a member institution of the Maryland Collaborative to Reduce College Drinking and Related Problems, a network of Maryland colleges and universities working together with community partners to reduce excessive alcohol use in their campus communities. Using data-driven approaches, the network engages partners to create environments, policies, and practices that help students make healthy decisions, succeed in college, and become productive members of their respective communities.

The Maryland Collaborative offers a website especially for parents of college students, [College Parents Matter](#). You'll find some statistics about alcohol, cannabis, and related problems; however, the main focus is on supporting parents in communicating with their students about these topics. The information is organized by common situations that can include high-risk drinking or substance use, like 21st birthdays, spring break, and housing and roommates. Each page has a section on why the topic is important and a little bit of the research related to that topic, followed by two sections called "Say this" and "Not this." Check it out! You might discover some ideas to add to your toolbox!

GREEN TERROR ATHLETICS

Our Green Terror student athletes continue to shine this season, delivering record-setting performances and historic milestones across multiple programs. From championship appearances to individual accolades, our teams are demonstrating extraordinary dedication, talent, and heart both on and off the field. Here are a few standout achievements that showcase the momentum and pride driving McDaniel athletics this year:

- Men's wrestling [senior Thomas Monn won his third 149-pound title at the NCAA Region 3 Championships](#) and earned his third trip to the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships.
- [Women's basketball advanced to the Centennial Conference Women's Basketball Championship](#) in back-to-back seasons for the first time since 2016 and posted its first 20-win season and first conference tournament victory since 2016.
- [Men's basketball advanced to the Centennial Conference Men's Basketball Championship](#) for the first time since 2016 and posted 16 wins in the regular season, the most for the team since the 2013-14 season.
- **Junior Sophia Leone** won her second medal in the pole vault with a silver at the [2026 Centennial Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships](#). It marked the first silver medal for the Green Terror in the pole vault since Jen Bruce '03 in 2002. In addition, **senior Ameerah Johnson** won bronze in the weight throw, resetting her own program record. It was the team's first medal in the weight throw in program history.

With momentum building across our athletics programs, we're excited to turn our attention to an action-packed spring season. From the first face-offs and opening pitches to key championship meets, our student-athletes are ready to showcase their hard work and Green Terror pride. Whether you're planning a trip to the Hill or cheering from afar, you can [follow livestreams, scores, and updates all season long](#) — we'd love for you to be part of the energy.

GIFT HIGHLIGHTS

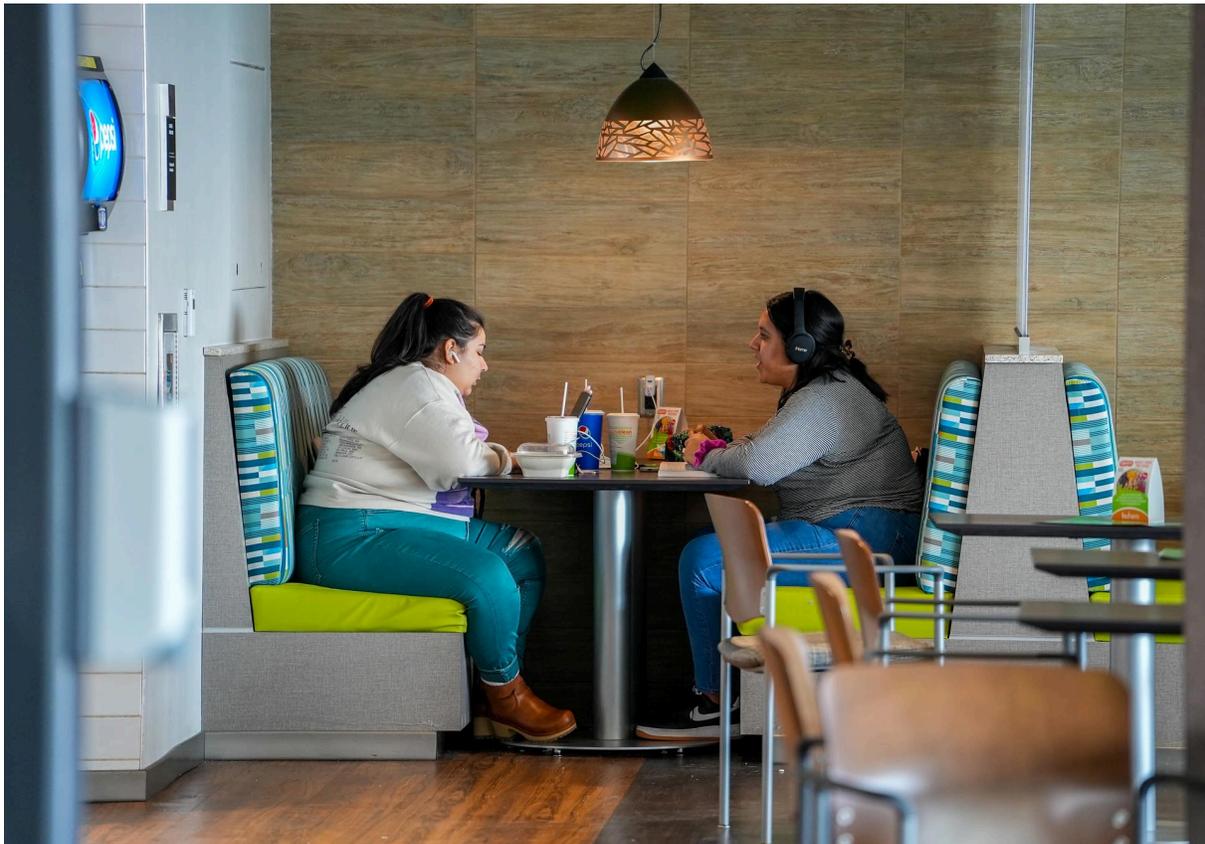
Our future as an innovative liberal arts college focused on student achievement and professional success lies in us reaching new heights — together. Thank you to the following donors for their recent gifts to the college in support of the strategic plan and [Reaching New Heights: The Campaign for McDaniel College](#). We can't do what we do without you!

- \$236,250 from Millard Mazer '83 and Karen Mazer to support The Dr. Millard Mazer Family Scholarship Endowed Fund, The Dr. Millard Mazer Family Scholarship Current Use Fund, The Mindi Leeman Memorial Scholarship Endowed Fund, and The Mindi Leeman Memorial Scholarship Current Use Fund.
- \$100,448.30 from Randolph Blazer '72 to support The Lewis Recitation Hall Renovations Fund.
- \$100,000 from Roger N. Casey and Robyn C. Allers to support the renovation of Caseys' Corner in Hoover Library.

- \$25,000 from Richard and Susan Palmer to support The Richard W. and Susan Palmer Scholarship Fund and The Track Renovation Project.
- \$25,000 from Alma Edgerly to support The Henry P. and Gretchen Stein Hornung Endowed Scholarship Fund.

[Make your gift online today](#) or contact Justin Forget, director of annual giving, at 410-386-4801 or jforget@mcdaniel.edu.

Conversation Starters: Prompts to connect with your student about the Hill



Two students - Eating and chatting in the Hilltop Pub.

- What takes up most of your time outside of academics?
- Are you exploring internships or summer opportunities to build your resume and gain experience toward your career goals?
- How are you taking care of yourself right now, and how can I best support your well-being?

Let's Get Social



Follow McDaniel College social media accounts to be in the know! Don't forget to join our McDaniel College Parent & Families Facebook Group. All accounts can be found on the [Parent & Family Resources](#) page.

Update Your Contact Information

McDaniel College
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